CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A reconfigurable pallet that supports a structure, comprising:

a pallet base; and

a plurality of modular stanchions that are adhesively secured to said pallet

base and that are selectively positionable along x and y axes relative to a top

surface of said pallet base, said modular stanchions each including a support

element that has a height along a z axis that is transverse to said x and y axes,

said support element supporting said structure.

2. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 1 wherein said x and y axes are parallel

to a top surface of said pallet base and said z axis is perpendicular to said x and

y axes.

3. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 1 wherein said support element is

movable along said z axis to adjust said height.

4. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 3 wherein each of said modular

stanchions further comprises a support cylinder that is selectively actuated to

move said support element to a position along said z axis.

5. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 4 further comprising a hydraulic pump in

fluid communication with said support cylinder and operable to adjust a hydraulic

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pressure within said support cylinder to move said support element along said z axis.

- 6. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 1 wherein each of said modular stanchions is adhered to said pallet base by an adhesive layer.
- 7. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 1 wherein each of said modular stanchions is adhesively bonded to said pallet base using a bonding pack.
- 8. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 7 wherein said bonding pack includes a stanchion base and a shim.
- 9. The reconfigurable pallet of claim 8 wherein said shim is adhesively attached to said stanchion base using a quick de-bonding adhesive and said shim is adhesively attached to said pallet base using a quick bonding adhesive.

10. A pallet that is configurable to support first structure and reconfigurable to support a second structure, comprising:

a pallet base; and

a plurality of modular stanchions that are adhesively secured to said pallet base and that are selectively positionable along x and y axes relative to a top surface of said pallet base, said modular stanchions each including a support element that is has a height defined along a z axis transverse to said x and y axes, said support element having a first position to support said first structure and having a second position to support said second structure.

- 11. The pallet of claim 10 wherein said support element is movable along said z axis to adjust said height.
- 12. The pallet of claim 10 wherein each of said modular stanchions further comprises a support cylinder that is selectively actuated to move said support element to a position along said z axis.
- 13. The pallet of claim 12 further comprising a hydraulic pump in fluid communication with said support cylinder and operable to adjust a hydraulic pressure within said support cylinder to move said support element along said z axis.

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- 14. The pallet of claim 10 wherein each of said modular stanchions is adhered to said pallet base by an adhesive layer.
- 15. The pallet of claim 10 wherein each of said modular stanchions is adhesively bonded to said pallet base using a bonding pack.
- 16. The pallet of claim 15 wherein said bonding pack includes a stanchion base and a shim.
- 17. The pallet of claim 16 wherein said shim is adhesively attached to said stanchion base using a quick de-bonding adhesive and said shim is adhesively attached to said pallet base using a quick bonding adhesive.

18. A method of assembling a reconfigurable pallet that supports multiple structures, comprising:

applying an adhesive to a modular stanchion;

securing said modular stanchion to a pallet base using said adhesive;

de-bonding said modular stanchion from said pallet base after using said reconfigurable pallet to support a first structure;

reconfiguring said reconfigurable pallet to support a second structure.

- 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising aligning said modular stanchion on x and y coordinates along said pallet base using a template.
- 20. The method of claim 18 further comprising removing said template after said modular stanchion is secured to said base.
- 21. The method of claim 18 further comprising attaching a bonding pack to said modular stanchion, wherein said bonding pack is adhesively secured to said pallet base.
- 22. The method of claim 21 further comprising adhesively securing a shim to a stanchion base of said modular stanchion, said stanchion base and said shim defining said bonding pack.

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- 23. The method of claim 22 wherein said shim is adhesively secured to said pallet base to secure said modular stanchion to said pallet base.
- 24. The method of claim 18 wherein said step of de-bonding comprises applying an electric current across said modular stanchion and said pallet base.

25. An assembly line for assembling a product, comprising:

a plurality of operation stages; and

a pallet that supports a base structure of said product and carries said base structure between said operating stages, comprising:

a pallet base:

a stanchion base that is adhesively secured to said pallet base and that is positionable along x and y axes relative to a top surface of said pallet base; and

a support element that is supported on said stanchion base and that has a height transverse to said x and y axes along a z axis, said support element having a first position to support said base structure.

- 26. The assembly line of claim 25 wherein said support element is movable along said z axis to adjust said height.
- 27. The assembly line of claim 25 wherein said pallet further comprises a support cylinder that is supported by said stanchion base and that is selectively actuated to move said support element to a position along said z axis.
- 28. The assembly line of claim 27 further comprising a hydraulic pump in fluid communication with said support cylinder and operable to adjust a hydraulic pressure within said support cylinder to move said support element along said z axis.

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- 29. The assembly line of claim 25 wherein said modular stanchion is adhered to said pallet base by an adhesive layer.
- 30. The assembly line of claim 25 wherein said modular stanchion is adhesively bonded to said pallet base using a bonding pack.
- 31. The assembly line of claim 30 wherein said bonding pack includes a stanchion base and a shim.
- 32. The assembly line of claim 31 wherein said shim is adhesively attached to said stanchion base using a quick de-bonding adhesive and said shim is adhesively attached to said pallet base using a quick bonding adhesive.
- 33. The assembly line of claim 25 wherein said modular stanchion is located along said x and y axis using a template.